

● PSF - OSS: September 1944

~~Box 169~~ 5d Bx. 169

Retired for preservation

Box 169

O.S.S. folder
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THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

September 4, 1944.

MEMORANDUM FOR
THE SECRETARY OF STATE
FOR THE NECESSARY ACTION.

F. D. R.

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OFFICE OF STRATEGIC SERVICES
WASHINGTON, D. C.

1 September 1944

Miss Grace Tully,
The White House
Washington, D. C.

Dear Miss Tully:

I am attaching a memorandum to the President which is a message directed to him from the Athens representatives of EAM. This was relayed for delivery to him through our facilities.

Will you please see that it reaches his desk?

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Charles S. Cheston
Charles S. Cheston
Acting Director

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By Authority of CIA

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OFFICE OF STRATEGIC SERVICES

WASHINGTON, D. C.

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1 September 1944

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

The communication below is directed to you from the Athens Representatives of the EAM Central Committee and is dated the 26th of this month. It was relayed to us for delivery to you through one of our agents with EAM in Greece:

"Your Excellency: The city of Athens is being depopulated as thousands of its people are forcibly removed to German labor gangs. The city's suburbs are being encircled by the Gendarmerie and security battalions of Rallis's Quisling government, which is placing thousands of Greek citizens under arrest and giving them into the hands of the Nazis.

"The Rallis troops turned over 15,000 of them to the Nazis between the 10th and 20th of this month, while an attempt was made to terrorize the population by the barbaric execution of over 500 citizens. On the 18th of this month, a single raid on Kokkinia resulted in the hideous massacre of 200 people and the rounding up for the Nazis of 5,000 more. The Germans executed all those in the column of Greek captives who were unable to keep up with

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rest. Tragically enough, they were assisted in this grim task by other Greeks. In Dourgouti, another suburb of the capital, 44 people were butchered with axes. Little children who tried to run from the fires were either trampled under-foot or hurled into the flames by the Rallis troops.

"In order that Hitler's plan to kidnap 100,000 Athenians and carry them off to slavery in Germany might be carried out, the identical scenes took place in one suburb and district of Athens after another: Kaisariani, Pankrati, Byrona. Knowing your Excellency's admiration for Greece and the Greek people, we beg you to help them and stand between them and the fate which awaits them in Germany. The plans of the enemy will in large measure be foiled by the annihilation of his communications at the hands of British and American bombers.

"Simultaneously, ELAS will unceasingly maintain its attacks in an effort to destroy communications and liberate the prisoners. Besides this, we beseech your Excellency to instruct the radio stations to publicize the crimes perpetrated in Greece by the Germans and particularly to designate as War Criminals all Greeks who carry out the orders of the Nazis by

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collaborating under arms with them and committing crimes against their own people. The result achieved by the pleas of the allied broadcasting stations for total Greek unity against the invading Germans and Bulgars will be the isolation of the enemy and the defeat of his foul schemes.

"We thank you in advance and convey our heartfelt respect. EAM. Athens."

Charles S. Cheston
Charles S. Cheston
Acting Director

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OFFICE OF STRATEGIC SERVICES
WASHINGTON, D. C.

12 September 1944

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

General Donovan (who is presently out of the country) has asked me to send to you the following message which was sent out by our intelligence team in Bulgaria on 9 September:

"335 Allied pilots, including a number of wounded, are expected to reach Svilingrad 10 September for evacuation to Turkey. The Turkish Secret Police and President Inonu are cooperating to the fullest extent and have even sent a special train to Istanbul from Edirne with doctors. The Bulgarians are helping to the greatest degree."

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Charles S. Cheston
Acting Director

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OFFICE OF STRATEGIC SERVICES
WASHINGTON, D. C.

26 September 1944

The following report has been received from our
Miss Grace Tully
The White House
Washington, D. C.

Dear Grace:

Will you please hand the attached
memorandum to the President?

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Bill

William J. Donovan
Director

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OFFICE OF STRATEGIC SERVICES

WASHINGTON, D. C.

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MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

26 September 1944

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By Authority of CIA

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By W.P. Date MAR 8 1974

The following reports have been received from our
intelligence representative in Bulgaria:

"The Russians have reached a line extending
through Bela, Popovo, Karnobat, and Burgas. The
Bulgarian Army is giving full assistance to the
entire Red Army 'Invasion' of Bulgaria. Orders
were issued to the Bulgarian Army not to oppose
the Russians. In the regions taken over by the
Russians, Bulgar troops were relieved of their
arms. The balance of Bulgaria was disarmed on
9 September. Arms to police the cities were de-
manded by the Fatherland Front, and the demand
was granted. The Guerrillas coming into the
cities from the mountains are more restrained
than the city crowds. (10 September)

"Mass meetings were instigated in
Sliven and Yambol by political commissars,
going ahead of the Army. The Bulgarian General

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Staff is of the opinion that, unless the mobs can be subdued, a government of Communist nature will be unavoidable. (11 September)

"The Communists are not attempting to force their beliefs upon others and are working in honest cooperation with other groups in the regime. There is mob rule, particularly in the Army, where the troops go on seizing and killing officers. In Plovdiv, the workers are making many arrests and have executed some people. In the Ivailovgrad area, the towns are packed with guerrillas, while the police and Branniks have gone into hiding in the mountains. In Stara Zagora, the Communists are functioning independently of other organizations. In Sofia, Soviet 'correspondents' answer Communist greetings by giving a military salute. It is believed that small Soviet forces will reach Sofia within 48 hours; the main movement will occur within 6 days. (14 September)

"The current regime is doing everything in its power to keep order and prevent extreme actions. The Fatherland Front militia is not opposed to the bourgeoisie and is eager to prove its suitability for police functions. There is a

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widespread feeling that the arrival of Soviet forces will relieve the tension in Sofia and will reestablish order in other places." (14 September)

Donovan

William J. Donovan
Director

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OFFICE OF STRATEGIC SERVICES
WASHINGTON, D. C.

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26 September 1944 *fwd 1*

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

We have just received from our intelligence team in Bulgaria the following report which I believe will be of interest to you:

"Macedonian leader, Shandanov, and Minister of Public Works, Bumbarov, report that official Russian pressure supporting Fatherland front has strengthened the government in its struggle against Communists anxious for further revolution. The Minister of the Interior and other Communist leaders are attempting to restrain followers' ardor. General belief is that government is stable and danger from left has passed."

Donovan
William J. Donovan
Director

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By Authority of CIA
007622
By NBS Date MAR 8 1974

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OFFICE OF STRATEGIC SERVICES
WASHINGTON, D. C.

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26 September 1944

Miss Grace Tully
The White House
Washington, D. C.

Dear Grace:

Will you please hand the attached
memorandum to the President?

Thank you.

Sincerely,

W. J. Donovan

William J. Donovan
Director

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By Authority of CIA

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By DBL Date MAR 8 1974

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OFFICE OF STRATEGIC SERVICES
WASHINGTON, D.C.

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26 September 1944

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MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

We have just received through our representative in Sofia the following report which originated with the Macedonian Federalist movement leaders there:

"1. The National Liberation Brigade is being reorganized by the Federalist leaders. This Brigade is composed of Macedonians in the Bulgar Army.

"2. The Bulgar Army will equip this Brigade which will number over 10,000.

"3. Under the exclusive command of Tito, this Brigade will fight in Macedonia.

"4. According to the Federalist leaders, the Macedonians, Communists and Federalists merged.

"5. By agreement and not by plebiscite, an autonomous Macedonia within Federal Yugoslavia will be formed."

Donovan

William J. Donovan
Director

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By ABD Date MAR 8 1974

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OFFICE OF STRATEGIC SERVICES
WASHINGTON, D. C.

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26 September 1944

Miss Grace Tully
The White House
Washington, D. C.

Dear Grace:

Will you please hand the attached
memorandum to the President?

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Bill

William J. Donovan
Director

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By Authority of CIA

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By NBS Date MAR 8 1974

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OFFICE OF STRATEGIC SERVICES
WASHINGTON, D.C.

26 September 1944

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

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We have just received from our representative in Romania the following report which I believe you will find of interest:

"I spent 3 hours with Starcea, the Marshal of the court, in Bucharest, September 19. Starcea is a brilliant young man of 33, who represents one of the most distinguished Romanian families. According to Georgescu (the Romanian Under Secretary of State for National Economy) Starcea is emotional and prone to jump to conclusions without full knowledge. Georgescu added that Starcea is making a mistake in excluding people from access to King Michael, when it is vital that the latter meet personalities of all persuasions and make as many friends as possible. In my conference with Starcea, he outlined the situation in Romania along the lines of Nicolescu Buzesti and Georgescu (see our memorandum to the President dated 22 September 1944). His summary follows:

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By WJS Date MAR 8 1974

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1. Mass recruiting is building up the formerly weak Romanian Communist Party. 'Thug' elements from the former Iron Guard are entering by the score and the 'intellectuals' are even flirting with the Communist cause. Shock forces are being trained and Romanian Communists are being armed.

2. Soup kitchens are being operated for the poor and medical supplies from the Romanian Red Cross are being given to the Communists for distribution. This is being done in an attempt to build up the prestige of the party and to encourage sympathy for the Russian cause.

3. Russian Communist organizers, among them many Romanian speaking women have entered factories and plants and called mass meetings. They have urged the workers to establish syndicates and they are making all sorts of inquiries about medical and recreational facilities, wage scales and working hours.

4. The country houses of the rich are being burned and looted by the Russian troops and barns and other agricultural installations have likewise suffered. Tractors and other farm implements have been removed, making it impossible for the peasants to work and eat this winter.

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5. The railways in Romania are being changed to Russian gauge so that the Romanian rolling stock may no longer be utilized for the commercial traffic. The Russians are tearing down telephone and telegraph lines.

6. Patrascano, the head of the Communist Party in Romania, who, since the Comintern was abolished, has maintained that he was a staunch supporter of the Royal Dynasty and most solicitous of the King's welfare, has just come back from Moscow; he is the only cabinet member who has not taken the oath to King Michael. Instead, he has developed a loud pro-Soviet attitude and is a security problem in cabinet meetings when relations with Russia are discussed.

"Starcea made the following deductions, on the basis of the considerations outlined above. The depredations of the Russian troops could undoubtedly be controlled and they are not wholly due to their entry into rich and 'civilized' country for the first time from their own wasted country (which the Romanians helped to devastate). The present Russian policy is to permit the army to loot and pillage and to crush the Romanian economic system beyond redemption. Starvation would then stare the peasants and workers in the face and the Government will not be able to do anything to

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ameliorate the ensuing chaos. People will be driven to desperation and the Communist Party will then accuse the 'politicians' of being unable to cope with the problem and of being unwilling to protect the people and provide orderly government. In utter despair, the people will turn to the Communism and the Communist Party will assume power.

"The Monarchy will be discredited as a tool of politicians and plutocrats and will be abolished. Then will follow a 'plebiscite' based on the Baltic States pattern when the vote will be 99.999% in favor of joining the USSR.

My comment follows:

1. Starcea, brilliant and successful, has lived in England and entered the diplomatic service as a student of Titelescu. He served 5 years in Geneva and was in the League Secretariat there. He is inclined to overstate matters.

2. In overstating his case, he stresses the difficulties with the Russians and his gloomy deductions are not shared entirely by Buzesti and Georgescu. The latter, though admittedly concerned, feel that the situation with regard to the Russians is improving. The deductions which Starcea drew are important to consider for he is probably the King's closest friend and adviser.

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3. All the Romanians except the Communist are eager for contacts with the United States and Great Britain and anxiously await the arrival of the British and American members of the Control Commission."

Donovan
William J. Donovan
Director

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OFFICE OF STRATEGIC SERVICES
WASHINGTON, D. C.

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26 September 1944

Miss Grace Tully,
The White House,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Grace:

I would appreciate it very much if you would
hand the attached memorandum to the President.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Bie

William J. Donovan
Director

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By Authority of CIA

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27 September 1944

Miss Grace Tully
The White House
Washington, D. C.

Dear Grace:

I believe the attached memorandum will
be of some interest to the President. Will you
please see that it reaches his desk?

Thank you.

Sincerely,

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William J. Donovan
Director

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LBX. 1647

OFFICE OF STRATEGIC SERVICES
WASHINGTON, D. C.

28 September 1944

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MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

I believe that you may find of interest the following report on the Chinese Communists. The information was obtained from certain of our representatives who are now with the Communists:

The Communist forces are composed of regular forces, militia and guerrillas. The regular forces are organized into the 18th Group Army of 320,000 men and the new 4th Army of 154,000 men. The militia is probably in excess of 2,000,000.

Since 1942 there has been little difference between regular troops and guerrillas. Both now receive orders through a regular chain of command and are supplied through the regular supply department. Guerrillas usually operate in plain clothes in fixed areas while regulars often move from one area to another and generally wear uniform. The equipment and training of the latter is usually slightly better. In addition to combat, the militia perform many other duties, such as acting as guides, carrying wounded, transporting

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By AHL Date MAR 8 1974

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captured material, acting as scouts and spies and mobilizing labor for gathering crops. Service in the militia is practically compulsory for all able-bodied young men in the Communist-controlled areas.

The degree to which the Communists control the areas in which they are operating varies widely. In the stable base areas, into which the Japanese can penetrate at most only a few times a year when they organize operations on a considerable scale, the Communist government functions openly and factories are operated. Factory equipment is hidden if the Japanese invade the area. In the guerrilla areas the government is underground, sometimes literally so in caves and tunnels, and troops usually operate only at night and in plain clothes. In enemy territory Communist activity is limited to the work of intelligence agents and undercover organizers, raids and assassinations. In some areas in which the new 4th Army is operating there are no really stable bases.

Equipment of the regular and guerrilla forces consists principally of rifles. There are usually two light machine guns and two grenade throwers per company, and a heavy machine gun and mortar unit in each regiment. Most Base (Area) Head-

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quarters have an artillery unit attached. The supply of grenades is fairly ample, but there is a serious shortage of ammunition. The best equipped troops have only about 40 rounds per man and from 150 to 200 rounds per light machine gun. In the militia hand grenades and land mines are the most important weapons and old muskets and hunting guns are commonly used. All arms and ammunition are made locally or captured from the Japanese. None are supplied by the National Government. It is becoming increasingly difficult to capture weapons from the Japanese, although some are still being captured from puppet troops. Grenades and grenade dischargers are manufactured in considerable quantities. Some rifle ammunition can be manufactured but the quantity is small and the cost is very high. In early 1943 the cost of manufacturing one rifle cartridge was about \$100.00 CNC.

The ration varies in different areas. In the Shansi-Chahar-Hopei Area the standard ration is 22 ounces of millet per day, plus vegetables, salt, and oil, and about 2½ pounds of meat per month. Rationing and accounting are regularly discussed at meetings of each unit. Peculation by officers is severely punished. The health of the troops is not parti-

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cularly good, due to lack of protein and fats and to poor cooking. Troops are usually able, however, to march 25 to 30 miles a day over rough mountain terrain, carrying all equipment, without losing more than a few men.

Officers of the rank of colonel and above are usually old Red Army men. Officers below the rank of colonel are usually promoted from the ranks after instruction in officers training schools.

Morale in general is very high. The troops know what they are fighting for and even in the dark days of 1942 there was no lack of confidence in the final victory of the Allies. The Japanese have behaved so savagely that they are deeply hated. Discipline in essentials is good, and orders are carried out even to death. Popular support of the armed forces is extremely good. In the guerrilla areas the existence of the fighting units depends upon the whole-hearted support of the people and this is usually given.

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William J. Donovan
Director

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OFFICE OF STRATEGIC SERVICES
WASHINGTON, D. C.

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28 September 1944

Miss Grace Tully
White House
Washington, D. C.

Dear Grace:

I think the President might be interested
in the attached report on Chinese Communists. Will
you see that it reaches the President's desk?

Sincerely,


William J. Donovan
Director

Attachment

DECLASSIFIED
By Authority of CIA
007622
By DBS Date MAR 8 1974

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OFFICE OF STRATEGIC SERVICES
WASHINGTON, D. C.

29 September 1944

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MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

On 24 September I wrote you of Marshal Tito's order restricting British and American intelligence activities. The next day we received word from our intelligence team in Bulgaria that the Russians had ordered it and the British to leave.

I immediately cabled General Deane in Moscow, and last night received word from him that he was advised by General Fitin, Chief of Russian Secret Intelligence, of the issuance of instructions to withdraw the order requiring the OSS team to leave Bulgaria. I have passed this on to the field. In order to prevent future misunderstandings, I am sending General Fitin lists of OSS personnel in Bulgaria and Rumania as requested by him.

This incident, together with the demonstrated attitude of Tito, show that the Russians intend to dominate this area and, as Subasic indicates, propose going to the Adriatic. It is apparent that the Russians are going to demand that other governments concerned recognize their

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By DRS Date MAR 8 1974

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primary interest in this area.

I attach a short account of an important contribution of this group to the safe evacuation of more than 300 airmen from Bulgaria. In addition, we have received intelligence reports of value.

Donovan

William J. Donovan
Director

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25 SEPTEMBER 1944 REPORT FROM OSS CAIRO
RELATING TO LIBERATION OF FLYERS IN BULGARIA

"I have just returned from Istanbul with the signed statements of Smith, 15th Air Force, and Harper (head of our team in Bulgaria) regarding their part in connection with the United States flyers liberated in Bulgaria. Synopses of these statements indicate that owing to Harper's speedy and positive action the train on which the flyers were travelling from Shumen to Sophia was halted and turned back. Smith, who was accompanying the train, had endeavored to do this very thing but had failed. Arrangements made with the Bulgarian General Staff by Harper resulted in Smith's being taken by plane to Sophia where negotiations were completed to turn the train back at Stara Zagora. From there the train proceeded to Svilengrad. The railroad station at Sophia was heavily bombed on the 10th of this month at the time when the train was due to reach Sophia, General Tindall, through our offices, has recommended to General Giles that Harper be awarded the Legion of Merit. We have been notified by MA here, however, that AFHQ has authorized awards for Major Smith and that he has also been promoted to Lt. Col. and also that decorations have been approved for Harper."

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OFFICE OF STRATEGIC SERVICES
WASHINGTON, D. C.

29 September 1944

Miss Grace Tully
The White House
Washington, D. C.

Dear Grace:

Will you please hand the attached
memorandum to the President?

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Bill

William J. Donovan
Director

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By Authority of CIA

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By WBD Date MAR 8 1974

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OFFICE OF STRATEGIC SERVICES
WASHINGTON, D. C.

30 September 1944

PSF
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MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

We have just received word from Colonel Huntington, Chief of our group with Tito, that the Partisan Headquarters have been moved to Serbia.

The British and Russian groups, as well as our own, are in the process of transferring their personnel to the new headquarters.

*D*onovan

William J. Donovan
Director

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By Authority of CIA
007622
By ABD Date MAR 8 1974

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OFFICE OF STRATEGIC SERVICES

WASHINGTON, D. C.

30 September 1944

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Miss Grace Tully
The White House
Washington, D. C.

Dear Grace:

Will you be good enough to place the
attached before the President.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Bill
William J. Donovan
Director

DECLASSIFIED
By Authority of CIA
007622
By ABD Date MAR 8 1974

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OFFICE OF STRATEGIC SERVICES
WASHINGTON, D.C.

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30 September 1944

PSF
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MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

I believe that you will find of interest the following report which I have received from Mr. Bernard Yarrow, who has just returned to London. You may recall that Mr. Yarrow has long been intimate with Subasic and was responsible for the series of reports which were forwarded to you last spring at the time of the formation of the new Yugoslav government.

"I spent Monday evening on the date of my arrival with Subasic. He is very much concerned about future ambassador to the United States. He told me that he asked Konstantinovic to join his government and the latter accepted it with enthusiasm. Upon arriving in London from Yugoslavia Konstantinovic was prevailed upon by some Serbian leaders to refuse the offer. Thereupon Subasic offered to him the post of ambassador to Washington. Konstantinovic is reluctant to accept it. Kassanovic (the Minister of the Interior) insisted upon receiving the post of ambassador and requested Tito to

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By DPL Date MAR 8 1974

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plead with Subasic to send him as ambassador. Tito replied that it is up to Subasic to designate the ambassador and left it entirely to Subasic to make the decision. Subasic is not contemplating the appointment of either Kassanovic or Gavrilovic and will let that post be vacant for a while until he finds the right person. I conveyed to Subasic the gist of the conversation I had with Cavendish Cannon about the inadvisability of sending a person as ambassador to Washington who was a controversial figure in the politics of Americans of Yugoslav extraction and repeated to him verbatim the message in full regarding this subject as explained to me by Cavendish Cannon. Subasic is entirely in accord with Cavendish Cannon's point of view and stated that he is most anxious to send a person who will cultivate goodwill between the United States and Yugoslavia and not a person who will foster friction and strife among Americans of Yugoslav extraction. Kassanovic is persistent and threatened to resign if he is not sent as ambassador. Subasic has no intention at present of acceding to Kassanovic's request."

Donovan
William J. Donovan
Director

OFFICE OF STRATEGIC SERVICES
WASHINGTON, D. C.

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30 September 1944

Miss Grace Tully
The White House
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Grace:

Will you kindly hand the attached memorandum
to the President.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Briss

William J. Donovan
Director

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By Authority of CIA
007622
By APB Date MAR 8 1974

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